

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING February 8, 2021

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, February 8, 2021, at 8:00 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Council Clerk, Mrs. Soper. Council persons present: MR. BAKER, MR. BRUGNONE, MS. DOWNING, MR. HILL, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WALDRUP.

The minutes of the January 25, 2021 City Council meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Baker to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Mr. Brugnone. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as written.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Strecker reminded everyone that at the last meeting he distributed the City's Boards and Commissions for 2021 for Council's review. A revised handout has been distributed. He encouraged Council to approve it tonight if possible.

Auditor, Mr. Smith, stated that his report for January acknowledges that we are up 8% from where we were a year ago. We are back on track.

He previously distributed a copy of the 2021 permanent budget. Tonight he has an amended budget with a couple of changes that occurred last week. There will be a Budget & Finance Committee meeting before the next Council meeting to discuss the permanent budget.

Treasurer, Mr. Freitag, stated that he received a communication from Huron County that everyone who owns property in Huron County will be late getting their property tax bills. They had a change in their vendor and the vendor was late sending them out. The taxes are due next Friday. As long as they are postmarked by next Friday they will be on time. If you haven't received your bill, you can call and they will email it to you. You may want to have your payment date-stamped by hand at the Post Office to make sure it states right on the envelope that it was mailed on or before the due date.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, stated that he attended the virtual seminar regarding the open records law. He was given a certificate and he sent a copy of that to Auditor, Mr. Smith.

He reminded everyone to file their Ohio Ethics report for the year. The deadline for filing for anyone on the ballot this year is April 5. For those not on the ballot, the deadline to file is May 17. He has a sheet with an online link where you can fill it out online or print out a hard copy for completing and mailing in.

He announced that we have received a new liquor license request from the Division of Liquor Control in Columbus. It is for the new Benchwarmers Restaurant. They need a response as to whether we want to have a hearing or not by March 4. We usually have a motion and a second to not request a hearing unless we know of problems or concerns with the owners. We have contacted the Police Chief and Safety-Service Director. They have both indicated that they have no concerns with the owners. A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to **not** require a hearing. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. All were in

favor. The Clerk of Council will inform the Division of Liquor Control that we do not request a hearing for the new liquor license.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Waldrup reiterated that he feels it is important to have funds allocated in our budget this year to hire a detective for our Police Department.

Mr. Shepherd inquired if the Street Department had any issues with parked cars while trying to remove the snow. Mr. Lantz stated that he has not heard of any issues with cars and everything has been going well with the plowing.

Mr. Baker stated that the snow plowing is going very well. Also, he has seen the contract for Barnes and noticed that the cost has increased for the compost site. He stated that the compost pile is very vital to the City.

Mr. Brugnone thanked the Safety-Service Director for helping with several situations with parking and signs.

Mr. Hill stated that he has received a lot of positive comments about the City's snow removal. It really helps the businesses downtown and the citizens.

Mrs. Ommert thanked the Mayor for his help with a citizen in her ward. She appreciates the snow plowing not only downtown, but all over the City. She has received a lot of positive comments from citizens regarding it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Hill stated that the Recreation Department has done a great job with the Mill Pond building renovation. It will be a nice, useable rental facility. Amy is now working on the basement of the Rec Center where there was a water problem. There will soon be another useable room. She is grateful for what the City appropriated in the budget for the Rec Department. She has a tough job and she is doing really well and making some great changes. They just hired a new gymnastics instructor who comes with a lot of experience.

Mr. Brugnone stated that an Economic Development Committee meeting was held tonight where they further discussed DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area). They changed the hours and a little of the verbiage. He scheduled another meeting for Monday, February 22, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., just prior to the next City Council meeting to further discuss DORA.

Mrs. Ommert stated that the Budget & Finance Committee meeting previously scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., will be changed to 7:15 p.m.

President Smith reminded everyone that there will be a Committee of the Whole work session immediately following this meeting tonight to go over committee assignments. Personnel will remain the same but there will be a few additions to the assignments.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Bellevue Police Chief, Marc A. Linder, agreed with members of Council, and stated that the Street Department is doing a great job with snow removal.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith asked for a motion to approve the Boards and Commissions for 2021. Motion was made by Mr. Brugnone and seconded by Mr. Waldrup to approve the Boards and Commissions. All were in favor.

He also stated that he has a stash of masks if anyone needs one.

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance 2-21 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE IN THE MATTER OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE'S PROPOSED PURCHASE OF THE OLD BEN FRANKLIN BUILDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to suspend the rules and give Ordinance 2-21 its second and third readings by title only, and as an emergency. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Ordinance 2-21 was given its second and third readings by title only: AN ORDINANCE IN THE MATTER OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE'S PROPOSED PURCHASE OF THE OLD BEN FRANKLIN BUILDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to adopt Ordinance 2-21 and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Ordinance 3-21 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND FOR THE BOARD OF CONTROL TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR THE DEMOLITION OF 127-129 EAST MAIN STREET IN BELLEVUE, HURON COUNTY, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by Mr. Hill to suspend the rules and give Ordinance 3-21 its second and third readings by title only, and as an emergency. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ommert. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Ordinance 3-21 was given its second and third readings by title only: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND FOR THE BOARD OF CONTROL TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR THE

DEMOLITION OF 127-129 EAST MAIN STREET IN BELLEVUE, HURON COUNTY, OHIO, AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Baker to adopt Ordinance 3-21 and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Waldrup. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, stated that he has an ordinance regarding permanent appropriations for 2021 prepared and ready to place on the agenda for the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Strecker thanked Council for approving the 2021 Boards and Commissions.

President Smith thanked everyone for attending.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Ommert and seconded by Mr. Baker. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
Clerk of Council